

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 L-03
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 /072 R

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APPROVED BY ACDA/MA:CFLOWERREE
PM/DCA:HPHELPS
DOD:GHARLOW (INFO)
-----072039Z 079725 /66

P R 072015Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USUN NY
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104896

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR WORKING GROUP ON RW/MDW, FIRST ROUND

GENEVA FOR BUCHHEIM

STATE MESSAGE ONE

REF: (A) STATE 103144 (B) STATE 55220

1. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR THE
FIRST ROUND OF MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP:

2. AS INDICATED REF A, US IS NOT YET IN A POSITION TO
EXCHANGE NEW SUBSTANTIVE VIEWS ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS
(RW) OR ON GENERAL TOPIC OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION;
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HOWEVER, US IS WILLING TO DISCUSS ORGANIZATIONAL AND
TECHNICAL QUESTIONS RELATED TO THESE SUBJECTS.

3. OUR OBJECTIVES IN THE PRESENT CONSULTATIONS ARE:

(A) TO DEMONSTRATE CONTINUING US COMMITMENT TO THE GOAL OF
EFFECTIVE LIMITATIONS ON MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS OF ALL

TYPES AND US WILLINGNESS TO WORK ACTIVELY AND CONSTRUCTIVELY TOWARD THAT END;

(B) TO EXPLORE TECHNICAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS RELATED TO FUTURE WORK OF THE GROUP;

(C) TO MAKE CLEAR TO THE SOVIET SIDE THAT THE DRAFT CONVENTION TABLED BY THE USSR AT THE CCD IN AUGUST, 1976 IS NOT A SUITABLE APPROACH TO THIS PROBLEM.

4. FOR BASIS SUBSTANTIVE GUIDANCE, DEL SHOULD RELY ON:

(A) COMMENTS ON RW MADE BY ACDA DIRECTOR IKLE ON NOVEMBER 1976, AT THE UNGA;

(B) INSTRUCTIONS FOR MARCH, 1977, INFORMAL CCD MEETING ON MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS.

5. DEL SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS OF TEXT OF ANY AGREEMENT BEFORE THE UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES AND TECHNICAL ISSUES HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY EXPLORED AND THAT IT IS NOT AUTHORIZED AT PRESENT TIME TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATION OF AN AGREEMENT.

6. AS PART OF EFFORT TO ESTABLISH FRAMEWORK FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION, DEL SHOULD EXPLORE QUESTION OF DEFINITION OF RW AND MDW. DEL SHOULD MAINTAIN PREVIOUS US POSITION ON SOVIET DRAFT MDW CONVENTION, BUT SHOULD INDICATE THAT US CONFIDENTIAL

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IS WILLING TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES. FYI: ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO MDW/RW WHICH HAVE OCCURRED TO US BUT HAVE NOT BEEN EXAMINED FORMALLY BY THE USG INCLUDE:

(A) SPECIFIC AGREEMENT ON EACH DISTINCT TYPE OF MDW, SUCH AS RW;

(B) GENERAL AGREEMENT CONTAINING A COMMITMENT TO THE OBJECTIVE OF EFFECTIVELY ELIMINATING THE DANGERS POSED BY NEW MDW AS WELL AS A COMMITMENT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TO PROMOTING THAT OBJECTIVE IN THE EVENT THAT SUCH NEGOTIATIONS APPEAR WARRANTED BY NEW TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS (THE "GENERAL AGREEMENT" COULD TAKE FORM OF A UN RESOLUTION, MULTILATERAL DECLARATION, OR LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT).

(C) SAME AS (B), BUT ACCOMPANIED BY AN AGREEMENT ON RW;

(D) APPROACH IN SOVIET DRAFT CONVENTION. END FYI.

7. DEL SHOULD SUGGEST THAT REFERENCE TO RW/MDW WORKING GROUP BE INCLUDED IN COMMUNIQUE ON CW WORKING GROUP RATHER THAN ISSUING SEPARATE COMMUNIQUE. YOU SHOULD AVOID

ANY IMPLICATION THAT DRAFTING OF A TREATY TEXT ON RW/MDW IS UNDERWAY.

8. DEL MAY INDICATE US SIDE ANTICIPATES THAT FUTURE DISCUSSION WILL BE CONDUCTED IN GENEVA WHILE CCD IS IN SESSION. WE WOULD NORMALLY EXPECT THAT US CCD REP WOULD HEAD US DEL DURING BILATERALS.

9. SHOULD SOVIETS SUGGEST IT, DEL MAY TENTATIVELY AGREE TO HOLD SECOND ROUND OF WORKING GROUP MEETINGS DURING CCD SUMMER SESSION, PERHAPS IN CONNECTION WITH MDW EXPERTS MEETING TENTATIVELY PLANNED FOR EARLY AUGUST. YOU SHOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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LEAVE SPECIFIC DATES TO BE DETERMINED LATER.

10. TO PROVIDE CHECK THAT ALL MESSAGES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, PLEASE SERIALIZE ALL MESSAGES. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHEMICAL WARFARE, INSTRUCTIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS, MDW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE104896
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RMIKULAK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770161-0921
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770582/aaaacsoj.tel
Line Count: 143
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0d980799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 103144, 77 STATE 55220
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2607190
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR WORKING GROUP ON RW/MDW, FIRST ROUND GENEVA FOR BUCHHEIM STATE MESSAGE ONE
TAGS: PARM, UR, US, CCD
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0d980799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009